KENTUCKY'S ENVIRONMENT

The Newsletter of the Environmental Quality Commission

Volume 22, No. 2

March/April 2006

EQC is a seven-member citizen board that advises officials on environmental matters, provides a public forum for the discussion of issues and monitors environmental conditions. To receive the free EQC newsletter, call (502_564-2150 ext. 160, email EQC@ky.gov, or write to EQC at 14 Reilly Road, Frankfort, KY 40601. You can also submit comments at our website at www.eqc.ky.gov.

Earth Day Award Winners Announced

EQC's 2006 Earth Day award ceremony was held on April 21, 2006, at McConnell Springs in Lexington. The Environmental Quality Commission presented awards to 10 individuals/organizations for outstanding efforts to enhance and protect our environment.

Award winners included the Glenn O. Swing Elementary School Energy Savers Team, Caryn Walker and the Brown School 12, Mammoth Cave Restoration Field Camp, Bacon Creek Watershed Council, Sister Rose Marie Cummins, Logan County Conservation District, Friends of Wolf Run, Inc., Clark's Run Environmental and Education Corporation, Scott R. Smith and Herman D. Regan Jr. For more information on the projects and activities for these groups and individuals, visit the Earth Day section of the EQC Web site.

Recycling for Charity

Have you ever wondered how you could help the environment and your community at the same time? Consider coordinating your recycling efforts with a local charity or school group. Your business or group would place your recyclables in a designated container that would be collected by charity volunteers on a regular schedule. The charity gets to keep the proceeds from the recycling effort, and you get the piece of mind that comes with helping the environment and your fellow man. Everybody wins!

Adopt A Highway

Would you like to contribute to the community, have fun with your friends and enjoy the outdoors all at the same time? Perhaps the Adopt-A-Highway program is for you. By volunteering to clean a particular stretch of highway, you are setting an example for others about the importance of a clean environment.

Any permanently established organization can adopt a stretch of highway. You can adopt a two-mile section of the roadway with your coworkers, your classmates, your fellow homemakers or your church group.

Trash bags, safety vests and warning signs can be obtained at each State Maintenance Facility, and litter removal is provided by state highway crews if requested.

For more information, contact Miranda Thacker at (502) 564-3419 or see the Adopt-A-Highway Web site (http://adopt-a-highway.ky.gov/).

EQC Has New Executive Director

Jo Hargis, an environmental scientist and naturalist, has been appointed executive director of the Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission (EQC), Governor Ernie Fletcher announced on April 11, 2006.

Hargis came to the EQC from R.D. Zande & Associates, an engineering and consulting firm, where her work included endangered species consultation, wetland and stream restoration plans, water anti-degradation analysis, ecological survey reports and cumulative impact assessments.

"I am honored to have been selected by this administration," Hargis said. "As executive director I will continue to support EQC's mission to serve as a public forum for the exchange of views, concerns and ideas relating to the quality and health of Kentucky's natural resources. I am committed to promoting partnerships that involve the public, advocacy groups and industries that will focus on conserving a healthy environment for future generations."

What's Happening?

May 13 - Join Amy Sohner and friends at the University of Kentucky/Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Arboretum, 500 Alumni Drive, Lexington, KY for the Kentucky Association for Environmental Education Get Away Day. Experts will explain how to have an environmentally friendly lawn that will make your neighbors green - with envy, that is! For more information, check the KAEE web site at www.KAEE.org

May 13-21 – National River Cleanup Week. Sponsored by a non-profit organization whose mission is to raise public awareness of the magnitude of trash accumulating in our nation's waterways. Register your group and learn about photo, publicity and essay contests at www.nationalrivercleanup.com

June 5-9 – Kentucky Forest Leadership Program. This week-long event for high school students entering the junior or senior year explores the many facets of forestry and natural resources management while developing leadership skills. Application materials are available online at www.uky.edu/Ag/Forestry/kflp/kflp.htm or by contacting Doug McLaren at (859) 257-2703. Applications are due by May 19, 2006.

June 10 - Join the Kentucky Association for Environmental Education and our host Steve Spencer, from Western Kentucky University, for a four-hour canoe trip on the Green River through Mammoth Cave National Park. We'll start at Dennison Ferry and float to the Mammoth Cave Ferry. Beginners, as well as the experienced paddler, welcome for this Get Away Day. For more information, check the KAEE web site at www.kaee.org

State Public Notices/Hearings

KY. DIVISION OF WASTE (SOLID WASTE)

Notices/Hearings

Contact: Ron Gruzesky, (502) 564-6716 or see http://www.waste.ky.gov/news

Ford Motor Company (Louisville) – Tentative approval of a regulation exemption variance. Ford Motor Company is seeking an exemption from 401 KAR 35:280 to avoid being subject to both 40 CFR Part 63 Subpart IIII and 401 KAR 35:280 as well as not being able to make the certifications required by Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) made between Ford Motor Company and EPA.

Meritor Heavy Vehicle Braking Systems, Inc. (Carrollton) – Approval of a Groundwater Assessment Report determining that statistically elevated concentrations of iron, chloride, sodium and total dissolved solids detected in down-gradient monitoring wells is related to the regional natural variability and shifts in groundwater flow direction of the aquifer rather than from a release of leachate from the landfill. The report also contains a groundwater user survey establishing that groundwater is not being used for human consumption, only industrial purposes, down gradient of the landfill. The applicant proposes to continue its groundwater compliance monitoring program and recommends no need for abatement or remedial action as the groundwater does not pose a danger to human health or the environment.

Williams Landfill, LLC, (Taylorsville) – Proposal to extend the expiration date of closed solid waste landfill permit, #108-00002, to September 17, 2011.

EPA NOTICES/HEARINGS

Geigo Company, LLC (**Morganfield**) - EPA intends to issue an Underground Injection Control permit. The permitted well will be used to inject produced brine brought to the surface in connection with conventional oil and natural gas production from the operations in the Hanson Field (Hopkins County). The injection zone will be the Tar Springs Formation in the perforated interval from 2380 to 2422 feet below the surface. Comments on permit issuance should be addressed to William Mann at (404) 562-9452.

Joseph L. Nally (Uniontown) – EPA intends to terminate an Underground Injection Control permit. This well has been converted to a production well and is no longer needed for injection. Additional information regarding permit termination is available by contacting William Mann at (404) 562-9452.

EPA NOTICES/HEARINGS, Continued

M.J. Daly Site (Ludlow) – Administrative Record file is available for public review. File includes documents that form the basis for selection of the removal action (short-term cleanup intended to stabilize a site that poses an imminent and substantial threat to human health or the environment). Contact Scott Albert at (859) 962-4060 for document review.

Mercury Petroleum Co., Inc. (Bowling Green) - EPA intends to issue an Underground Injection Control permit. The permitted well will be used to inject make-up water and produced brine brought to the surface in connection with conventional oil and natural gas production from the permittee's operations in Gradyville Field (Adair County). The injection zone will be the Knox Formation in the open hole interval from 1450 to 1457 feet below the surface. Comments on permit issuance should be addressed to William Mann at (404) 562-9452.

Ohio Kentucky Oil Corporation (Lexington) – EPA intends to terminate an Underground Injection Control permit. This well has been plugged and abandoned according to an EPA approved plugging plan and is no longer needed for injection. Additional information regarding permit termination is available by contacting William Mann at (404) 562-9452.

Red Boots (**Bowling Green**) - EPA intends to terminate an Underground Injection Control permit. This well has been plugged and abandoned according to an EPA approved plugging plan and is no longer needed for injection. Additional information regarding permit termination is available by contacting William Mann at (404) 562-9452.

Travis Coomer Drilling (Columbia) – EPA intends to terminate three Underground Injection Control permits. These wells have been plugged and abandoned according to an EPA approved plugging plan and are no longer needed for injection. Additional information regarding permit termination is available by contacting William Mann at (404) 562-9452.

In an effort to be kinder to the environment through the reduction of paper use, the EQC office would like to switch as many paper subscribers as possible to electronic subscribers. If it is possible for you to receive our newsletter by e-mail, please contact us at eqc@ky.gov.